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College Comment

Key to Current Issues in Alberta Public Colleges

OPEN COMMISSION MEETINGS

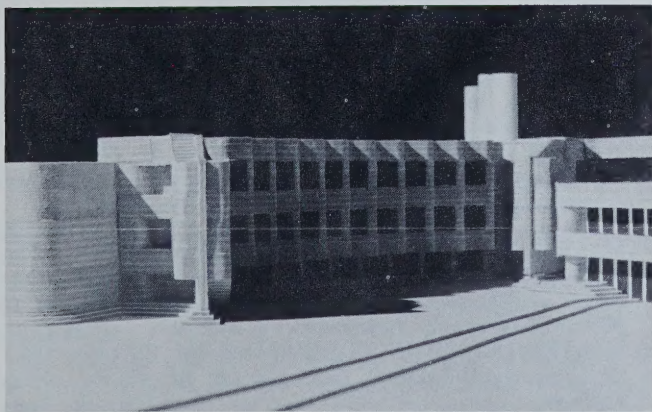
The Alberta Colleges Commission has opened its regular monthly meetings to the public. The decision was made at the June meeting of the Commission and the first open meeting was held September 14.

Since the formation of the Commission under The Colleges Act in 1969, the meetings have been held behind closed doors. When the decision to open the meetings was made, the feeling of the members of the Commission was that as a public agency responsible for coordination of the public colleges in Alberta, anyone wishing to attend the Commission meetings should be allowed to do so. It was noted, however, that in the past, requests from groups or individuals wanting to speak to the Commission on college matters have always been welcomed.

The open meetings will be held on the second Thursday of each month in Gallery Two at the Edmonton Inn, 118 Street at Kingsway Avenue. A list of the items appearing on each meeting's agenda will be available one week in advance of the meeting.

FEATURE COLLEGE:

GRANDE PRAIRIE REGIONAL COLLEGE



A major decision was made at the first open meeting of the Alberta Colleges Commission on September 14, 1972 when the members approved a construction budget of \$4.9 million for phase one of the Grande Prairie Regional College campus.

The 127,400 square foot project is designed with a spine-like street which starts at the structural springing point of the physical education centre, curves along an arc of a circle to form the concourse, and then travels along the city's Bear Creek reservoir to serve first the academic wings and later all future additions to the college campus. Leading off the "street" and opening onto the concourse will be the area containing the resources centre and bookstore and also the

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INTEGRATION-COORDINATION-GROWTH: MASTER PLAN No. 1.

A report which has been designed as the beginning of a continuous approach to the coordination and master planning of non-university post-secondary education in Alberta has been completed. The Master Plan project, headed by Mr. Rino A. Bosetti, Alberta Colleges Commission Director of Research and Planning, was begun in 1970 as an educational master plan for the public college system. In early 1971, at the request of the provincial cabinet, the scope of the project was expanded to take into account all publicly supported post-secondary non-university and continuing education services in Alberta.

In a broad sense, the Master Plan: (1) describes an organized system for post-secondary non-university education, (2) serves as a vehicle for further planning and establishing priorities, (3) facilitates coordination among institutions comprising the system, (4) serves as an effective public relations instrument, and (5) provides a means for removing post-secondary development from purely political considerations and local pressures. Within this framework, the project focuses on such areas as manpower, student and social needs, the university transfer arrangement, performance indicators, simulation models for resource allocation, program allocation and approval review procedures, and a cost analysis. It also provides an extensive study of the existing facilities and future facility requirements.

The plan has been prepared in such a way as to be implemented with a coordinating rather than a governing function on a perpetual basis.

Among other things its recommendations would:

- establish an integrated system of advanced education coordinated by a single planning-review agency of government.
- determine the role and service parameters of each post-secondary non-university institution in a manner which would preserve diversity of services to meet diverse needs but which would at the same time achieve greater efficiency and effectiveness in the provision of educational services to the Alberta population.
- shift the focus of advanced education from the teaching to the learning process and remove the traditional constraints of time and institution as prerequisites for credentials.
- encourage the development of new services designed to meet the needs of those traditionally excluded from advanced education by virtue of age, sex, geographic location, or social or economic disadvantage.
- encourage the use of student finance as a means for equalizing educational opportunity.
- encourage the development of programs in the humanities and arts, social sciences, environment and ecology, health and

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ANOTHER CAMPUS ADDED



Facilities to accommodate an additional 600 students have been acquired by **Grant MacEwan Community College**, giving the Edmonton facility a third campus in its approach toward providing higher education through a multi-campus arrangement.

The former **Academie Assomption** facility had been used as a private school. Renovations costing in excess of \$150,000.00 were undertaken through the summer months to allow for September occupancy. The 70,000 square feet of floor space houses 11 classrooms, 13 laboratories, 3 seminar rooms, a student lounge, gymnasium, learning resources centre and a bookstore in addition to a day care centre. The new campus is being used to accommodate students enrolled in courses in the continuing education division of the college. Assumption campus is located at 10765 - 98 Street. The other campuses are Old Scona Campus and Cromdale Campus.

Grande Prairie Regional College (continued)

performing arts centre. A contractor for the project is expected to be named shortly with work to begin soon after that. The new campus, designed by Edmonton architect **Douglas Cardinal**, should be ready for occupancy in 20 to 24 months time.

The Grande Prairie Regional College was conceived six years ago as a regionally oriented post-secondary institution designed to serve a variety of educational needs in the Peace River district of Alberta.

The college began its operation with a first-year university transfer program and has added programs which include academic and vocational preparatory courses and one and two year programs in secretarial science and in business administration. A performing arts program which includes academic study and musical performing groups from a cross section of city and district residents has been developed and has gained wide acceptance. A pilot program in industrial education geared to the multiple skills required by the forest and pulp industries of the Peace River Region is currently underway. Programs in nursing and health service education are anticipated following the completion of a new campus facility. Additional career programs are anticipated in the near future in order to meet the objective of comprehensive post-secondary education.

The college has a commitment to serve the entire region of the Peace River district and has developed instructional centres at several locations. In addition, the college assists part-time students through its relationship with several institutes offering professional certificate programs. Courses are offered which carry credit not only from the college but also from such bodies as the **Society of Industrial Accountants**, the **Alberta Real Estate Board**, the **Institute of Canadian Bankers**, the **Appraisal Institute of Canada**, and the **Certified General Accountants of Canada**.

The college is located in the city of Grande Prairie which, with a population of 14,000, is the major centre of the west region of northern Alberta. The college served a total of 1,100 students in 1971-72 in its full-time day, evening, credit and non-credit activities.

The cooperative and joint planning of services in the college with other local authorities has been a feature of the community involvement of the college. From its inception it has relied on the cooperation of school boards and other local bodies to secure temporary teaching and other spaces. Several of the facilities in the new campus, including a performing arts centre and fine arts facility, have relied on extensive assistance from community groups as well as authority from other branches of the Provincial Government.

Integration-Coordination Growth (continued)

social services, and recreation and leisure which deal with and enhance the quality of life.

- encourage the maintenance of institutional flexibility to meet client needs and to meet existing and emerging manpower needs through the development of appropriate vocational programs.

- establish a provincial planning environment in which planning data is assembled and analyzed as a basis for policy decisions.

- establish the data base for a system simulation model upon which to test the implications of proposed administrative and policy decisions.

- establish a monitoring system with which to determine the effects of policy decisions regarding accessibility of services, student finance, and institutional funding; and which would serve as a predictor of student flow to, within, and from the system of Advanced Education.

Research on a wide range of issues relative to the post-secondary sector of education was conducted through contractual agreements with investigators and through in-house studies by Commission staff. The following monographs were generated and distributed during the project:

MASTER PLANNING MONOGRAPH No. 1. May, 1971.
The Planning Project: Developing a Master Plan for Alberta Post Secondary Non-University and Continuing Education.

— Bosetti

MASTER PLANNING MONOGRAPH No. 2. May, 1971.
Alternative Futures: Alternative Patterns of Governance for the Alberta Post-Secondary Educational System.

— Thiemann

MASTER PLANNING MONOGRAPH No. 3. May, 1971.
Programs and Services Inventory: A Study of Non-University Post-Secondary and Continuing Education Services.

— Fisher

MASTER PLANNING MONOGRAPH No. 4. July, 1971.
Enrolment Potential: Population Analyses and Projections for Alberta Post-Secondary Education.

— Clarke

MASTER PLANNING MONOGRAPH No. 5. October, 1971.
Alternative Futures: A Rationale for Organization and its Application to Existing and Proposed Structures for Advanced Education.

— Bosetti

MASTER PLANNING MONOGRAPH No. 6. May, 1972.
Population Analyses: Alberta and Regional Population Parameters for Educational Projection and Planning.

— Chamchuk

MASTER PLANNING MONOGRAPH No. 7. May, 1972.
Student Needs and Motivations: A Detailed Study of the Needs and Motivations of Students Currently Enroled in Sixteen Educational Institutions in Alberta.

— McLeish

MASTER PLANNING MONOGRAPH No. 8. June, 1972.
Resource Allocations: A Cost Analysis of Alberta Public Colleges.

— Cornish, Batty

MASTER PLANNING MONOGRAPH No. 9. August, 1972.
Values: Social Values and Educational Needs.

— Adams

MASTER PLANNING MONOGRAPH No. 10. August, 1972.
Capital Resources: A Survey of Existing Capital Facilities in Alberta Post-Secondary Non-University Institutions.

— Cornish, Fenske

If the recommendations contained in the report are to be implemented successfully it is necessary to secure additional input and discussion. Mr. Bosetti has recommended that the document be circulated to all interested parties and that meetings be arranged to solicit reactions to its recommendations prior to implementation. In late September a draft form of the report was to be made available to the Minister of Advanced Education and the members of the Alberta Colleges Commission.

DEPUTY MINISTER RETIRES . . .

Dr. R. E. Rees was honored in June upon his retirement as Deputy Minister of Advanced Education. During his long and distinguished career as an educator, Dr. Rees served as a university professor, a high school inspector and Chief Superintendent of Schools. He was appointed Deputy Minister of Education in May, 1971 and later Deputy Minister of Advanced Education when that department was established.

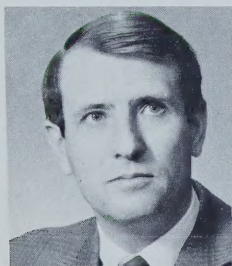
As Deputy Minister, Dr. Rees was also a statutory member of the Alberta Colleges Commission. In recognition of his membership and service to the Commission, he was presented with a plaque by Commission Chairman, Dr. Henry Kolesar.



. . . NEW DEPUTY MINISTER APPOINTED

The appointment of Dr. Walter H. Worth, 46, as Deputy Minister of Advanced Education was effective September 1. For the past three years Dr. Worth had been seconded from the University of Alberta to head the Commission on Educational Planning. Since 1967 he served as Vice-President of the university. Dr. Worth was a teacher and later superintendent of schools before joining the university in 1955. After two years at the University of Illinois he rejoined the University of Alberta as associate professor of education in 1959. From 1960 until 1966, he was professor and head of the Department of Elementary Education. At this point he was named Associate Dean of the Faculty of Education.

OTHER POSITIONS FILLED



The announcement has been made of the appointment of Dr. J. H. Snedden of Medicine Hat to the Alberta Colleges Commission.

Dr. Snedden who has just completed a term as Chairman of the Board of Medicine Hat College, fills the vacancy created with the retirement of Mr. J. J. Comessotti of Calgary. Mr. G. H. Davison who has been a member-at-large on the board of Medicine Hat College has been appointed Board Chairman for the remainder of the term. Appointed to a three year term is Mr. J. D. Horsman of Medicine Hat. Serving a one-year term as academic representative is Mr. D. J. Carter.

At Lethbridge Community College, Mr. R. F. Babki of that city was appointed Chairman of the Board with the retirement of Mr. J. Robbins of Pincher Creek. Mrs. J. R. Gunn of Stirling will serve a three-year term as a member-at-large, Mr. Ken Riley of Lethbridge a one-year term as academic representative on the board.

At Mount Royal College, Calgary, Mr. R. H. Purdy was appointed to a three-year term. Serving one-year terms are

academic representative Mr. G. Papas and student representative Mr. R. D. Walker.

*Mrs. M. Collins of Grande Prairie was appointed to the Grande Prairie Regional College Board. The academic representative will be Mr. P. Lemay of Grande Prairie.

Reappointed to another one-year term as academic representative on the Board of Grant MacEwan Community College, Edmonton, is Mr. H. Sheinin. Mr. E. Stack of Edmonton has been appointed to a three-year term as a member-at-large.

Yet to be appointed are a Chairman of the Board of Grant MacEwan Community College and student representatives on the Boards of Governors at Grande Prairie Regional College, Lethbridge Community College, Grant MacEwan Community College and Medicine Hat College.

The Chairman of the Colleges Commission had earlier expressed regret at the delay by the Executive Council in making the necessary appointments to the Boards. Dr. Henry Kolesar said that the Commission had carried out its responsibility by requesting nominations up to mid-April and then forwarding the information on each nominee to the office of the Minister of Advanced Education. On July first, when most of the appointments were to become effective there were 17 vacancies which had not been filled.

CEP REPORT CONTRADICTIONARY

The Chairman of the Alberta Colleges Commission has criticized the report of the Commission on Educational Planning over its proposed structure for coordination of Advanced Education. Dr. Henry Kolesar says that the progressive development of the structure and the purpose which the report promotes are contradictory. "The criteria for a coordinating agency are relevant knowledge, accountability and participation. The mechanism, a strong Department of Advanced Education, does not meet these criteria in the terms proposed in various parts of the report. While those associated with a Department may be knowledgeable; to whom are they accountable, and what would be the opportunity for those whose activities will be coordinated to participate?" "The fact is," says Dr. Kolesar, "a Commission structure is much more likely to meet the criteria for a coordinating agency which the report brings out." He points out that the traditions of the departments of government have clearly demonstrated that they are most responsive to the wishes of government, least to the wishes of those governed. "A department is established to serve government. It ascribes unto itself the power of government and has seldom been known to overtly and publicly challenge government. On the other hand, the Alberta Colleges Commission was created as an intermediary authority standing between a set of institutions and government. It represents the institutions it coordinates and at the same time the government it serves. It can publicly challenge either or both."

Dr. Kolesar is confident that the Universities Commission and the Colleges Commission along with a Department of Advanced Education can coordinate advanced education services without redundancy in coordinating activities. He points out that there are advantages in the division of responsibility and even in some resulting competition. Three units in coordinated and competitive effort, he suggests, are likely to be more innovative and responsive than a single large "bureaucracy", a Department of Advanced Education.

The Commission on Educational Planning proposes that the Colleges Commission and the Universities Commission be dissolved and their functions assigned to the Department of Advanced Education.

RED DEER COLLEGE STUDENT ASSISTANCE

Five Alberta students who require financial assistance will have an opportunity to further their education at Red Deer College through a **Tuition Awards Program**. One thousand dollars has been made available for awards of \$200.00 each. Presentation of a cheque was made to college administrator **Dr. Raymond G. Fast** by a representative of the sponsoring organization, **Uncle Ben's Brewery Alberta Limited**. Dr. Fast termed the contribution an example of the positive things that are happening at the college.

The awards will cover the first year's tuition fees. One-half of the annual tuition fee will be paid directly to the college upon registration, and the balance, which is conditional upon the award winner being permitted and intending to complete the year's work, will be paid to the college on successful completion of the first term.

In determining which candidates are most deserving, consideration will be given to the following factors: the applicant's financial need, scholastic standing, character, leadership qualities and sportsmanship. Also, each applicant must be entering a program of study at Red Deer College. Consideration will also be given to students entering the second or third year of the university degree program, or to students who are transferring from a recognized Alberta College.

Trustees for the awards program include two representatives of the sponsoring organization; Mr. Jack Flaherty, Director of Student Services at Red Deer College; and representatives of the college Department of Arts, Department of Science, Department of Careers, and the Department of Physical Education.

SUCCESSFUL NURSING EDUCATION PROGRAM

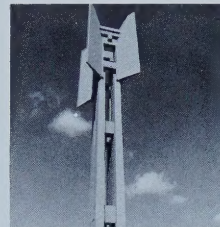
Eighty students have registered this year in the first-year school of nursing program at **Lethbridge Community College**. The figure is more than double the total number of first year registrants one year ago. The increase for the 1972-73 term means that there are now more than 110 students enrolled in the two-year nursing education at the college. This is the third year that Lethbridge Community College has offered the program. The director of the school is Sister Ann Marie Cummings.

Each week the students are required to spend from 8 to 16 hours in a hospital setting. At the present time the college is in the process of employing a number of part-time instructors to help the students while they gain this clinical experience. The college has an affiliation agreement with **St. Michael's Hospital** in Lethbridge as well as a number of district hospitals where the practical aspects of the nursing education program are made available.

Nursing graduation exercises are held in conjunction with other graduation ceremonies at the end of May. Students who successfully complete the college program qualify to write the national registered nursing examinations in August.

MOUNT ROYAL ON THE MOVE

While eagerly anticipating their settling into new facilities, the administrative staff and members of the faculty of Mount Royal College were involved in the month-long task of moving from the old downtown campus to Lincoln Park in Calgary's southwest. On September 11th the shuttle was completed, giving the staff until the beginning of registration on September 27th to become familiar with the new surroundings in the \$15.1 million facility. The beginning of classes was delayed until October 2nd this year to allow the additional time for the move. The date of the official opening of the **Mount Royal College** building has yet to be announced.



A finishing touch to the exterior of the building was the addition of the college carillon. Pre-cast in concrete, the 66 foot sculpture was a gift of the Kerby Board which was chaired by the late **Dr. Howard Wright**. The instrument consists of 147 miniature bell units of bronze bell metal. When struck by the metal hammers it produces exact bell tones almost inaudible to the human ear. These bell vibrations are then amplified over one million times by means of specifically designed electronic equipment, producing true bell music with all the depth and richness of traditional cast bells of massive proportions.

1972-73 ENROLMENTS

Although the period of registration had yet to be completed at all of the six colleges in the system, early indications showed that the 1972-73 enrolments would be on a par with earlier projections. What appeared to be a drop in the projected enrolments at some colleges was being off set by what also appeared as higher than projected enrolment figures at **Grant MacEwan Community College**, **Edmonton** and **Mount Royal College**, **Calgary**. Actual enrolment figures are not expected from Mount Royal College until October. Registration had been set back to September 27th due to the campus relocation.

RESEARCH STUDY

Research Study No. 18: **J. M. Small, College Coordination in Alberta: System Development and Appraisal, 1972.**

In Study No. 18, Mr. Small examines in detail the structures and mechanisms for system coordination which have been in use in the Province of Alberta. By describing the evolution of the Alberta college system, he highlights the problems in coordination which tend to result when the coordinating agency lacks statutory authority over all members of the system. By a selective review of literature dealing with coordination in both Canada and the United States, Mr. Small develops criteria for evaluation of coordinating mechanisms.

The study, the eighteenth in a series, is being made available to interested persons. Requests for copies can be made through the offices of the Alberta Colleges Commission in Edmonton.

COLLEGE COMMENT is a quarterly publication of the Alberta Colleges Commission for administrators, faculty and students in Alberta's public colleges. Subscriptions may be obtained free by contacting Mr. Glen E. Yost, Information Officer, Alberta Colleges Commission, 600, 11160 Jasper Avenue, Edmonton, Alberta T5K 0L1. Telephone 482-5976

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